

CLASSIFICATION ~~SECRET~~ 25X1
Approved For Release 2005/08/03 : CIA-RDP82-00457R0003100140004-2
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY 25X1 REPORT

INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY Czechoslovakia

DATE DISTR. 18 Aug 79

SUBJECT Czechoslovak Imports of Ball Bearings and Machinery

NO. OF PAGES 1

PLACE ACQUIRED

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NO. OF ENCLS. (LISTED BELOW)

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DATE OF INFO.

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SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

- 25X1 1. At the present moment, ball bearings are more urgently required by Czechoslovakia than any other article. Home production is practically non-existent, and although hard currency is made available for the purchase of ball bearings as a priority article, it is not possible to meet the country's requirements.
- 25X1 2. Czechoslovakia has purchased a number of large industrial plants for the iron and machine industries but although these plants have already been partially paid for, they are not being delivered because of the blockade.
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- 25X1 3. To compensate for this lack of machinery, a sum of 2,800 dollars was recently allocated for the purpose of buying working drawings It is considered unlikely that these drawings are purchased directly, since the amount is believed to have been made available It is stated that the export embargo has been circumvented by these purchases, which have supplied the satellite countries with the necessary drawings.
- 25X1 4. It is also reported that working drawings of large oxygen plants destined for Czechoslovak steel works and even larger Soviet steel works have been obtained by these means.

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